



MILWAUKEE NUMISMATIC NEWS

- February 2018 – The next regular MNS meeting will be held on February 15, 2018, 7 PM, at the Mayfair Mall Community Room. We'll have a numismatic trivia show organized by Neil Shafer, and hopefully time for exhibits as well.

President: Justin Perrault
 Secretary: James Kubley
 Sgt. at Arms: Dave Herrewig
 Trustee '17-'19: Dave Hunsicker
 Librarian: Justin Perrault

Vice President: Jim Heinrich
 Treasurer: John Bleidorn
 Trustee '16-'18: Gary Bieringer
 Trustee '18-'20: Tom Dallmann
 Newsletter editor: Leon Saryan

New Mailing address: c/o PO Box 26886, Wauwatosa, WI 53226-0886

Newsletter material: c/o PO Box 210313, Milwaukee, WI 53221-8006 LASaryanphd@gmail.com

Web Site Address: www.milwaukeeenumismaticssociety.com

The Milwaukee Numismatic Society, founded in 1934, is the oldest and largest organization in Milwaukee devoted to the study of money. Meetings are held at 7:00 PM on the third Thursday of each month in the Community Room on the lower level of Mayfair Mall (W. North Avenue at N. Mayfair Road). The annual MNS coin show is held in October.

February Coin of the Month: This is a 2013 set of rare Bitcoin medals in three finishes, gold, silver and bronze. It's your choice: you can buy one Bitcoin for \$10,000 or more, or you can get this set of 3 for just \$9. All medals are brilliant uncirculated and contain one troy ounce of copper.. Starting price \$9, bit high and bit often!!



February 2018 MNS President's Message

The transfer of power with our newly elected officers went as smoothly as can be at the last meeting. Welcome aboard to your new officers: James K. as Secretary, John B. as Treasurer, and Dave Herrewig as Sgt. at Arms. A very special thank you goes to outgoing Treasurer Lee Hartz. Beginning in 1997, Lee faithfully served the club for a total of twenty-one years. It is going to be awfully hard to replace his level of dedication, but I certainly think that John is up to the task. Thanks to all of our officers and other officials for willingly serving the club.

A big point of issue raised at our last meeting was the need for exhibit judges at our coin show. Our exhibits are truly what make our show unique. We need a total of three or four exhibit judges to be ready for the show this fall. The club will train you on the specifics of what it takes to be a successful judge. Please contact myself or Gary B. for more information or if you are interested. Remember, serving as an exhibit judge also counts towards your volunteer hours for a free banquet ticket.

The hobby recently lost another legendary member, Ed Rochette, Executive Director of the ANA, who passed away at the age of 90 on January 18th in Colorado Springs. Prior to serving the ANA in a number of executive capacities starting in 1966, Ed worked at *Numismatic News* in Iola as an editor. During his tenure at ANA, he oversaw an immense number of changes, everything from improving the publication of *The Numismatist* to expanding the scope of the headquarters and museum. Ed received a litany of awards and recognitions ranging from the Medal of Merit, Numismatist of the Year, and induction into the Numismatic Hall of Fame. I think it is safe to say that the ANA would not be where it is today without the selfless dedication of Ed Rochette.

You still have a couple of months to submit your picks for the fantasy numismatics competition. The *Coins* price guide magazine will be made available for your reference at the meetings. Let's have a record number of members enter the competition this year. There is no cost to enter, and all entrants will at least receive a participation award.

Happy Collecting,
Justin J. Perrault
masters1122@yahoo.com
262.613.9996

News From the Prez

Please Note: As of February 2, 2018, the Milwaukee Numismatic Society has a new address:

MNS
PO Box 26886
Wauwatosa, WI 53226-0886

MN\$ 2018

Schedule

Monthly meetings are held at 7:00 pm on the 3rd Thursday of each month in the Community Meeting Room in the lower level of Mayfair Mall. Visitors interested in numismatics are welcome.

Monthly meeting programs

Jan 18:	Officer Inductions; Post-Holiday BINGO game
Feb 15:	U.S. Coins Trivia Program hosted by Neil Shafer
March 15:	Tom Dallmann: Grading Test
April 19:	Peter Jacobson-Anesthetic History
May 17:	Spring Auction
June 21:	Expanded Show and Tell
July 19:	NO MEETING
Aug 16:	Slabbed vs. Raw Coins presentation by Tom Casper
Sept 20:	Andy Kimmel: "Collecting, Coin Dealers, and How to Turn a Profit"
Oct 18:	Raffle Ticket Prize Drawing
Nov 15:	Autumn Auction; Election Slate
Dec 20:	Holiday Party; Officer Elections

PLEASE NOTE:

MNS is a volunteer organization. We always need new and interesting programs, activities, helpers to work at events, and someone to bring refreshments for the meetings. We are also looking for ideas for club outings. MNS will reimburse refreshment expenses up to \$60. To volunteer, please contact Pres. Justin Perrault at 262.613.9996 or VP Jim Heinrich at 262.796.1814. Thanks to everyone who has stepped up by volunteering their time and talent to make this club a success.

2018 Numismatic Events

Feb. 18, 2018	Oshkosh Show, Conv. Center 2 N. Main Street
February 25	Racine Coin Show Roma Lodge, 7130 Spring St. 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM
March 25	Waukesha CC, New Berlin Ale House, 16000 W. Cleveland Ave.
April 13-14	SSCC Annual Show Crowne Plaza Airport 6401 S. 13 th St. Noon-6PM; 10 AM-4 PM
April 14	MNS Boy Scout Merit Badge Clinic at SSCC Show, 7 AM-Noon
April 15	Sheboygan CC Show, Kohler, WI
April 22	Elgin, IL Coin Club Show Holiday Inn at 495 Airport Rd. 8 AM-4 PM (free admission)
April 25-28	Central States Annual Convention Schaumburg, IL

Refreshment Schedule

Jan:	Don Kaminski
Feb:	Open
Mar:	Open
Apr:	Open
May:	Open
Jun:	Open
Jul:	NO MEETING
Aug:	Justin P.
Sep:	Open
Oct:	Open
Nov:	Open
Dec:	Holiday Party

Annual Dues

Dues for 2018 are \$10. Please pay Leon A. at the next meeting, or they may be mailed to MNS, PO Box 241174, Milwaukee, WI 53224. Thanks to those who have paid.

Milwaukee Numismatic Society

Minutes

January 18, 2018

President Justin Perrault called the 986th meeting of the MNS to order at 6:58 pm. There were 31 members and 1 guest in attendance. The president led the club in the pledge of allegiance. Door prizes were won by Gary B, Jim H, Don K, Tom P, Tom C, Chris K, Paul K, Jeff G.

Coin of the Month: Steve J won the coin of the month, a 1966 Philadelphia US Mint set in a plastic display case with a bid of \$10.00.

Treasurer's Report: Lee Hartz reported that December showed receipts of \$320.00 and \$1,322.46 in disbursements for a negative cash flow of \$1,002.46.

Correspondence: Numismatist magazine, Centinel, and various newsletters.

Vice President Report: There are openings for several months in the upcoming year for members to present programs & bring refreshments.

Fantasy Numismatics: 2018 applications are available. The 2017 top 3 winners Jim H, Leon S, and Josh W were given prizes. All 11 participants receiving 1 ounce copper participation awards. Deadline to submit entries will be the March meeting. Leon thanked Bruce Benoit who did the work and Don Kaminski who loaned his copy of the January 2018 Coins Magazine.

Summer Seminar Scholarship: ANA 2018 summer full & partial scholarships are now available for submission. Application deadlines are February 1 and can be mailed or e-mailed to Justin.

Newsletter: Newsletter articles are always appreciated. Brief reminiscences of great circulation finds, local experiences, etc. are appreciated additions.

Membership: Membership cards are available for 2018 for annual members upon payment of their annual dues.

Election: The 2018 officers were sworn in as follows: President-Justin Perrault, VP-Jim Heinrich, Secretary-James Kubley, Treasurer-John Bleidorn, Sgt at Arms-Dave Herrewig and trustee Tom Dallmann.

Show & Tell: Tom Casper – Civil War Tokens; John Marr / Bob Mathieu – Mega Redbook 2017, Color photos of coin grades, Central States Silver Medal & Exhibit Rules, and The Year in Auction Sales (\$50 - \$3,290,000 / ½ cent - \$20.00) / Leon Saryan – Bitcoins – set of 3 / Dave Hunsicker – Vignettes; print out of internal revenue stamp worth \$5,000.00 and 10 Mexico Peso Note / Bruce Bartelt – Two Interesting Roman Egypt Coin Types / Howard Thorpe - “Always Be Looking” - Search Through Your Pocket Change / Tom Snyder – Dubuque, Wisconsin – 1838 \$5 Wisconsin Territory Note / Jeff Gaffke – “Two With Stories and One Replacement”; FUN Show Finds – 3 notes: \$5 Bermuda Note, Laos Note, Peru Replacement Note / Josh Whitehall – 50 Years Ago; 400th Meeting MNS 1968 Medal / Chris Kantak - \$1,000 Bill From the Atlanta Fed

Bingo Winners: Malik Boyd, Norm Vogel, Don Kaminski, Harry Siaggas, Bruce Bartelt, Robert Mathieu, and Jordan Heller

The meeting was informally adjourned at 8:53 pm by President Perrault.

Respectfully submitted by James Kubley



2017 Fantasy Numismatics Winners show off their prizes (l to r): Jim Heinrich (1st), Leon Saryan (2nd), Josh Whitehall (3rd), as David Herrewig looks on.



Past President Leon Saryan administers the oath of office to new 2018 MNS officers on Jan. 18



Your 2018 MNS officers (l to r): Justin Perrault, John Bleidorn, Jim Heinrich, Tom Dallmann, James Kubley and David Herrewig

Is This You, as You Contemplate Your Collection?

By Bruce Bartelt



The Monkey Antiquarian
Copy after Jean-Baptiste-Siméon Chardin, after 1740

Authors note: During a recent business trip, I had a free afternoon and took the opportunity to visit The San Diego Museum of Art, one of many museums found in Balboa Park, San Diego. There I was surprised to see a numismatic-themed painting on display, and thought the MNS membership might be amused by it, as I had been.

This painting belongs to a genre called *singeries* – monkey paintings* – that became very popular in eighteenth century France. In these works, monkeys, often fashionably dressed, imitate human behavior. As the subjects literally “ape” humans, they especially poke fun at the activities of the upper class, including artists and art connoisseurs who thought themselves above the ordinary.

Among the subjects represented on such paintings can be found monkeys in the guise of painters, sculptors, and musicians. Others depict simians playing parlor games, smoking pipes, attending school, or as soldiers.

The painting in San Diego depicts a capuchin monkey leisurely studying his collection of coins and medals that are stored in the drawers of a coin cabinet, with numismatic reference books at his side.



Engraving from *La Science des Medailles*,
by Louis Jobert, 1739

At left is the frontispiece of a book from the same period. It depicts in a more traditional manner two aristocrats examining coins stored in an elegant cabinet.

It was a growing fashion among the nobility from the 16th to 18th centuries to collect and examine antiquities from the ancient world. Almost every aristocrat worthy of the name kept a cabinet of coins and medals to demonstrate his erudition. European royalty competed among themselves to acquire collections or remarkable single coins. Louis XIV of France built one of the greatest collections, the basis for what is now France’s national collection, and kept it at Versailles so he could visit it every day. Charles VI, husband of the Austrian Empress Maria Theresa, carried his numismatic enthusiasm to the point that he had a portable coin case built so he could carry his favorite coins with him on military campaign.

Scholars and collectors used coins as sources to illuminate the study of ancient times, especially of Rome and its emperors. The inscriptions and portraits found on coins could help to fill in the

gaps of knowledge lost over the centuries. In late 1600s Paris, a group of intellectuals would meet weekly to discuss numismatics and its relation to Roman history – an early collector’s club. We follow in their tradition as we also collect, study, and research coins and share our findings.

References:

Clain-Stefanelli, Elvira Eliza, *Numismatics-An Ancient Science* (Washington: Smithsonian Institution, 1965)

“Singerie”, *Wikipedia*, <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Singerie>

“The Singerie: Monkeys acting as Humans in Art”, *The Public Domain Review*,
<https://publicdomainreview.org/collections/the-singerie-monkeys-acting-as-humans-in-art/>

* French; literally, “monkey trick”.

More on the 1828 Yerevan Medal

L. A. Saryan



Last month I presented an incredible unique solid gold medal, dated 1828, struck in Russia to commemorate the capture of Yerevan (today the capital of the Republic of Armenia) from Persia by the armies of the Russian Czar. A couple of our members asked if by some stroke of good fortune the gold medal had entered my collection. Sadly, at \$118,000 and change, the gold was a bit beyond my budget! Bronze copies depicting the exact same scene, however, are available to the patient collector. I own two such medals, both of the same size and design as the gold.

Above is my bronze example, 122.01 grams, 64.9 mm diameter, numbered 278. on the edge, which I obtained from a friend. Both sides depict Mt. Ararat, the obverse showing it rising above the Biblical deluge surmounted by the Ark of Noah. The date 2242 represents the year after the Creation that the Ark landed on Ararat, according to early calculations. The opposite face shows Ararat with a flag at its peak, the date 1828 (the year that Yerevan was incorporated into the Russian Empire), the river Araxes, and in the foreground the skyline of the city of Yerevan as it existed under Persian rule.

Below is another example, possibly one half of an electrotpe or a medal in which one side has been hollowed out and a hand-inscribed paper label affixed purporting to describe the opposite side, 73.05 grams, 64.8 mm diameter. The label, in French, is not exactly accurate as it suggests that the city view is actually the Monastery of Echmiadzin. I obtained this piece in 2006 from a seller in France, and I have never seen a similar example.

